IAP12 Rec'd PCT/PTO 26 APR 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application of)
HAYASHI et al.)
Application Number: To be assigned)) \
Filed: Concurrently Herewith	,) `
For: SURFACE-TREATMENT METHOD AND EQUIPMENT)) `
Attorney Docket No. SANK.0008	,)

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119 AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Sir:

In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority date of the PCT application PCT/JP2004/016288, filed October 27, 2004, which claims the priority date of Japanese Patent Application 2003-369212 filed October 29, 2003, all of which is incorporated by reference.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher

Registration Number 24,344

Juan Carlos A. Marquez Registration No. 34,072

REED SMITH LLP

3110 Fairview Park Drive Suite 1400 Falls Church, Virginia 22042 (703) 641-4200 April 26, 2006